1. A method of reading data from a storage medium, comprising:

reading data on the storage medium in response to a command;

5   storing the data in a region of memory; and

issuing an interrupt after a predetermined portion of the data has been stored in memory.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising consulting a database to determine when to issue the

10   interrupt.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the database comprises instructions for storing the data and for issuing the interrupt.

4. The method of claim 2, wherein the database

15   comprises a scatter/gather list.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined portion of data is read from a first location on the storage medium and additional data is read from a second location on the storage medium, the first location preceding the second

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location in a direction of movement of the storage medium during reading.

6. The method of claim 6, further comprising reading data from a third location on the storage medium in
5 response to the command, the third location preceding the first and second locations in a direction of movement of the storage medium during reading.

7. A method by which a host processing device reads data from a storage medium of a disk drive, comprising:
10 reading data from a first location on the storage medium in response to a command requesting data at a second location on the storage medium; and

reading data from the second location on the storage medium in response to the command, the first location
15 preceding the second location in a direction of movement of the storage medium during reading.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the first location is adjacent to the second location.

9. The method of claim 7, further comprising
20 reading data from a third location on the storage medium in

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response to the command, the third location following the second location in the direction of movement of the storage medium during reading.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the third
5   location is adjacent to the second location.

11. The method of claim 7, further comprising receiving the command from a computer program executing on the host processing device.

12. The method of claim 7, further comprising
10   storing data read from the first and second locations in a memory on the host processing device.

13. A computer program stored on a computer-readable medium for reading data from a storage medium, the computer program comprising instructions that cause a
15   computer to:

read data on the storage medium in response to a command;

store the data in a region of memory; and

issue an interrupt after a predetermined portion of
20   the data has been stored in memory.

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14.   The computer program of claim 13, further comprising instructions that cause the computer to consult a database to determine when to issue the interrupt.

15.   The computer program of claim 14, wherein the database comprises instructions for storing the data and for issuing the interrupt.

16.   The computer program of claim 14, wherein the database comprises a scatter/gather list.

17.   The computer program of claim 13, wherein the predetermined portion of the data is read from a first location on the storage medium and additional data is read from a second location on the storage medium, the first location preceding the second location in a direction of movement of the storage medium during reading.

18.   The computer program of claim 17, further comprising instructions that cause the computer to read data from a third location on the storage medium in response to the command, the third location preceding the first and second locations in a direction of movement of the storage medium during reading.

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19.   A computer program stored on a computer-readable medium which causes a host processing device to read data from a storage medium of a disk drive, the computer program comprising instructions that cause the host

5   processing device to:

read data from a first location on the storage medium in response to a command requesting data at a second location on the storage medium; and

read data from the second location on the storage

10   medium in response to the command, the first location preceding the second location in a direction of movement of the storage medium during reading.

20.   The computer program of claim 19, wherein the first location is adjacent to the second location.

15   21.   The computer program of claim 19, further comprising instruction that cause the host processing device to read data from a third location on the storage medium in response to the command, the third location following the second location in the direction of movement of the storage

20   medium during reading.

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22. The computer program of claim 21, wherein the third location is adjacent to the second location.

23. The computer program of claim 19, further comprising instructions that cause the host processing
5   device to receive the command from a computer program executing on the host processing device.

24. The computer program of claim 19, further comprising instructions that cause the host processing device to store data read from the first and second
10   locations in a memory on the host processing device.

25. An apparatus for reading data from a storage medium, comprising:

a memory which stores computer instructions; and

a processor which executes the computer instructions
15   to (i) read data on the storage medium in response to a command, (ii) store the data in a region of memory, and (iii) issue an interrupt after a predetermined portion of the data has been stored in memory.

26. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the processor executes computer instructions to consult a database to determine when to issue the interrupt.

27. The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the database
5   comprises instructions for storing the data and for issuing the interrupt.

28. The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the predetermined portion of data is read from a first location on the storage medium and additional data is read from a
10 second location on the storage medium, the first location preceding the second location in a direction of movement of the storage medium during reading.

29. An apparatus for reading data from a storage medium of a disk drive, comprising:
15   a memory which stores computer instructions; and
         a processor which executes the computer instructions to (i) read data from a first location on the storage medium in response to a command requesting data at a second location on the storage medium, and (ii) read data from the
20 second location on the storage medium in response to the command, the first location preceding the second location in

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a direction of movement of the storage medium during
reading.

30. The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the first
location is adjacent to the second location.